



UEBT
SOURCING
WITH RESPECT

ABOUT UEBT | PROGRAMMES

RESPECTING PEOPLE AND BIODIVERSITY IN THE WAY NATURAL INGREDIENTS ARE SOURCED

UEBT is a non-profit association that promotes sourcing with respect. Its mission is to regenerate nature and secure a better future for people through ethical sourcing of ingredients from biodiversity.

It's a wild world

UEBT has special expertise on botanicals that are collected from the wild (in addition supporting companies on sourcing cultivated botanicals).

Many of the practices UEBT promotes contribute to the regeneration of wild species in biodiversity-rich parts of the world while respecting indigenous people and local communities.

Focus on botanicals

UEBT focuses on botanicals. These are plants and other unique raw materials derived from biodiversity, such as roots, flowers, fruits, fungi, or microbial organisms.

UEBT began as a United Nations initiative.

It maintains strong partnerships with UN organisations such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNCTAD BioTrade Initiative

These ingredients may be used as herbs and spices or in ingredients used for medicinal, flavour, fragrance, dietary, cosmetic, or other purposes. UEBT considers botanicals to be different from 'commodities', which also come from biodiversity but are grown and traded in large scale, often interchangeably.

WHAT WE DO

UEBT sets good practices for how companies and their suppliers source botanicals – whether cultivated (farmed) or collected from the wild – for the beauty, food, natural pharmaceuticals, flavours and fragrances, and herbs and spices sectors, among others. UEBT is internationally recognised for its work.



™ UEBT is ISEAL Code Compliant. Our standards system has been independently evaluated against ISEAL's Codes of Good Practice.

More information at isealalliance.org

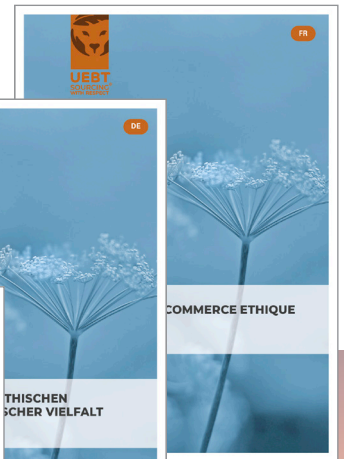
The UEBT standard is published in six languages, and available to download at uebt.org/resource-pages/standard

UEBT standard

The UEBT standard is the core of all UEBT programmes. The standard was developed in a multi-stakeholder process. It defines practices to respect people and biodiversity in the sourcing of botanicals. The standard can be applied by companies and their suppliers, along supply chains and all the way to cultivation or wild collection sites.

The UEBT standard covers a range of important issues, including:

- Biodiversity conservation and restoration
- Cultivation and wild collection practices for sustainable use of biodiversity
- Human and workers' rights
- Community wellbeing and local development





UEBT PROGRAMMES

UEBT's programmes enhance the work of companies, their suppliers, field operators, and other stakeholders to respect people and biodiversity in the sourcing of botanicals.

All programmes follow a continuous improvement approach, with some focused on reducing negative impacts and others focused on contributing to positive impact. Companies choose which programmes best meet their strategies.

Membership programme



UEBT
MEMBER
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In this programme that is often the first step of engagement, companies make commitments and meet minimum requirements from the UEBT standard. They set priorities for gradual improvement with UEBT support.

Companies can use the UEBT member logo to show they are part of a growing movement of committed companies. Membership is often the first step for companies to engage with UEBT, providing a launchpad to other UEBT programmes.

Due diligence programme

In this programme, UEBT provides tools to support companies in managing risks and responding to growing due diligence policies around the world. Tools are tailored to botanicals supply chains and include a responsible sourcing risk database, a supplier due diligence platform, and an Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) due diligence database.

Verification and certification

UEBT provides independent assurance for companies in its sourcing programmes, in the Herbs and Spices Programme, and in the regenerative programme.

The following assurance approaches are offered:

Verification

This approach validates practices in an ingredient supply chain at the field level using UEBT experts. It takes a gap spotting approach, with learning and improvement at its core. Limited text claims are possible, and there is no labelling.

It is available for all sourcing programmes except for the UEBT-Rainforest Alliance Herbs and Spices Programme.

Certification

This approach provides formal, independent validation at the field level using an external certification body, accredited by UEBT. It takes a compliance approach, but with stepwise flexibility at its core.

Certification can provide a third-party label when certain conditions are met. It is available for all sourcing programmes, the regenerative programme, and the UEBT-Rainforest Alliance Herbs and Spices programme. It is not available for the responsible sourcing programme.

See descriptions of the UEBT sourcing programmes on the next page.

UEBT PROGRAMMES CONTINUED

Responsible sourcing programme

In this programme, UEBT supports companies that are prioritising specific botanicals supply chains for due diligence or positive impact. UEBT provides field verification services to assess practices against requirements in the UEBT standard.

Companies can focus on meeting the 'responsible sourcing' requirements that are crucial for most due diligence or risk management programmes. UEBT experts pinpoint strengths and weaknesses and can provide documentation that attests to a level of performance.

Ethical sourcing programme

In this programme, UEBT supports companies that are prioritising specific botanicals supply chains for positive impact. UEBT provides field verification services or third-party certification via external certification bodies to assess practices against requirements in the UEBT standard. Companies that meet the 'ethically sourced' level of performance have met a fuller set of requirements that promote positive impact for people and biodiversity.

RAINFOREST ALLIANCE UEBT/Rainforest Alliance Herbs and Spices Programme

This special joint certification programme builds on the decades-long experience of the Rainforest Alliance in sustainable agriculture certification, and UEBT's expert knowledge of botanicals, including those collected from the wild.

It uses a combined set of UEBT/Rainforest Alliance requirements for certification and applies to all ingredients for herbal and fruit infusions, including rooibos; and other herbs and spices, including vanilla, chili, and pepper. Ingredients certified in this programme can carry the Rainforest Alliance Certified seal.

Regenerative programme

This newer programme was launched in 2023 after 18 months of testing and co-development with companies. It supports UEBT members that want to promote regenerative practices.

It aims to drive scientifically grounded positive impact on people and biodiversity and engage companies to invest in positive actions. Companies work with UEBT on their regenerative approach. As regenerative practices are promoted, externally validated claims are available.

Biodiversity Action Plans

To support compliance in the UEBT sourcing programmes, or as a stand-alone approach, UEBT works with many companies on Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs).

BAPs are an effective, tested approach to biodiversity regeneration and restoration. They are tailored, ingredient-specific plans developed in partnership with local stakeholders to ensure they are relevant to local needs. BAPs often pave the way for local collaboration on regeneration-related topics and they are a key component in the UEBT regenerative programme.



Learn more

To learn more about UEBT and its programmes [visit our web site](https://www.ethicalbiotrade.org) or write to us at info@ethicalbiotrade.org

IMAGES: PAGE 1: CALENDULA CALENDULA OFFICINALIS | PAGE 2: LAVENDER LAVANDULA ANGUSTIFOLIA



UEBT

De Ruijterkade 6, 1013 AA, Amsterdam, The Netherlands | Telephone: +31 20 22 34567 | Email: info@uebt.org

Representation in Brazil | France | India | Madagascar | Vietnam

Connect with us www.uebt.org | www.linkedin.com/company/uebt

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